

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A battery pack apparatus comprising:

5 a plurality of battery packs each having a plurality of rechargeable batteries arranged in parallel, with a cooling medium passage interposed therebetween;

a plurality of cooling medium feeding devices provided, one for each of the battery packs for feeding a cooling medium through the cooling medium passage in the battery pack;

10 a temperature detector for detecting temperatures of the rechargeable batteries in the respective battery packs; and

a controller for controlling the cooling medium feeding devices based on detected temperatures, wherein

15 the controller controls the cooling medium feeding devices such that maximum or minimum temperatures detected for the respective battery packs substantially match with each other.

2. A battery pack apparatus comprising:

20 a plurality of battery packs each having a plurality of rechargeable batteries arranged in parallel, with a cooling medium passage interposed therebetween;

a plurality of cooling medium feeding devices provided, one for each of the battery packs for feeding a cooling medium through the cooling medium passage in the battery pack;

25 a temperature detector for detecting temperatures of the

rechargeable batteries in each of the battery packs; and

a controller for controlling the cooling medium feeding devices based on detected temperatures, wherein

flow characteristics of the cooling medium in the cooling medium feeding devices for the respective battery packs are set such that, when one of the battery packs exhibits a largest temperature distribution range, temperature distribution ranges of the other battery packs are contained in the largest temperature distribution range.

3. The battery pack apparatus according to claim 2, wherein

flow resistances of passages for feeding and discharging the cooling medium in the cooling medium feeding devices are set such that flow rates of the cooling medium in each of the cooling medium passages in the respective battery packs are substantially the same as each other.